

Department of History News, Events, & Announcements

V. 5:2 (Feb 2012)

Phi Alpha Theta Reception:

Mark your calendars for the annual Phi Alpha Theta reception: **Thursday, April 12, from 4:30 to 6:30 pm** in **Room 310 of the Library** (Center for Teaching and Learning meeting room). The reception brings together faculty, students, alumni, and friends of the department in a festive atmosphere: with lots of good food. New members to Phi Alpha Theta will be inducted into the Honor Society.



For more information about membership applications and Phi Alpha Theta events, please contact Professor Mateo Farzaneh: M-Farzaneh@neiu.edu.



Professors and students at the 2011 reception (above and left).

Brommel-Lindberg Scholarship:

Established by Dr. Bernard Brommel in honor of his former student Richard C. Lindberg, the scholarship is awarded once a year to an outstanding undergraduate in History. The deadline to apply for this year's scholarship is **Monday, April 2nd, 2012 at 5:00pm**. For criteria and procedures please check the History Department home page www.neiu.edu/~history. Additional questions may be addressed to Professor Patrick Miller at p-miller1@neiu.edu.

Welcome Professor Joshua Salzmänn!

After a long and conscientious search, we welcome to our faculty **Dr. Joshua Salzmänn** (Ph.D. University of Illinois, Chicago, 2008). Professor Salzmänn brings to NEIU extensive teaching experience in Modern U.S. History as well as courses in Social History of the City, Chicago History, Urban Environmental History, and Business, Technology, and the State.



His book, *Safe Harbor: The Political Economy of Chicago's Waterfront, 1847-1918* is under contract for publication in the "Business, Politics, and Society" series with the University of Pennsylvania Press. Among his other publications is an article titled "The Creative Destruction of the Chicago River Harbor: Spatial and Environmental Dimensions of Industrial Capitalism, 1881-1909," (forthcoming in *Enterprise and Society*).

Professor Salzmänn reports that he has also enjoyed working with students and colleagues beyond the classroom: in extracurricular settings as a history fair judge, coach, writers' workshop coordinator, and American Historical Association conference staff member.

It is a pleasure to welcome him to our department and university.



Chicago River at the Rush Street Bridge (1904).

Student & Alumni News

History Alumna **Therese Bacchus** reports that she has just been accepted to the Ph.D. program in the Department of Political Science at the *University of Chicago* (with substantial funding). There she plans to work on political philosophy, specifically regarding race and the African American experience.



History graduate student and former department tutor **Bryan Brady** has just been accepted into AmeriCorps' *Teach for America* program. A highly-selective program, Teach for America places outstanding college graduates into low-income American schools, with the objective that one day, all children in the nation will have the opportunity to attain an excellent education. Bryan will be heading to the Las Vegas Valley where he will teach middle school mathematics by blending mathematical concepts with the presentation of quantitative historical data.



Professor **David P. Dewar** of *Angelo State University* sends his greetings and news from Texas.

After attending Northern Illinois University, Dewar earned his M.A. in History at NEIU, working principally with Professor Joseph Morton on Colonial and Early National America. He then gained his Ph.D. from the University of Kansas and taught there—actively participating in KU's expansive study abroad program—and at Washburn University before taking a position at Angelo State, where he pursues research in Colonial and Early National America, the Trans-Appalachian West, and the early fur trade while guiding courses in U.S. Colonial, Early National, Antebellum, and Constitutional history.

Dewar is a member of the American Historical Association, the Omohundro Institute for Early American History and Culture, the Organization of American Historians, and Phi Alpha Theta, the International History Honor Society.



History M.A. **Anthony DiLorenzo** reports that he is presently in the third year of his graduate assistantship in the History Ph.D. program at *Loyola University*. He recently passed his qualifying exams with distinction, with a major field in American history (Colonial-19th century focus) and a minor field in Early Modern Europe (Intellectual and Cultural focus).



DiLorenzo is currently working on his dissertation proposal, under the direction of Professors John Donoghue and Tim Gilfoyle. The general topic is Atlantic cosmopolitanism 1776-1809. The focus is on the development of alternative conceptions of nationalism and democratic participation throughout the Atlantic world and their impact on national formation in the early American republic.

He has also been working on an article related to blues expressions and the great migration, a draft of which he presented at the Mid-American History Conference and Loyola's Graduate Student Conference.

History Alum **Matthew Sawicki** will present a paper, "Ladies Don't Argue with a Burglar: Gender, Race, and Class in Firearms Advertisements 1880-1919" in April as part of the Women and Leadership Archives Spring Lecture Series at *Loyola University*.

For more information go to www.luc.edu/wla/Upcoming_Events.shtml. Matt, the Veterans Admissions Outreach Specialist at NEIU, is in his final semester of Loyola's MA Program and is currently applying to PhD programs across the country.



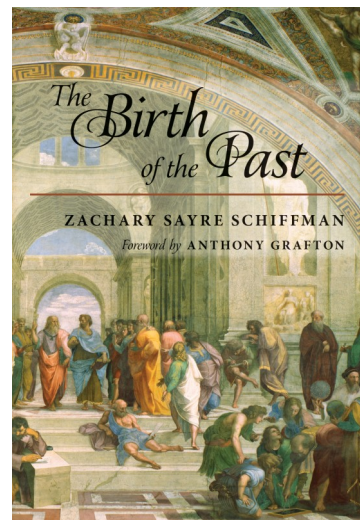
Faculty Updates

Professor **Zachary Schiffman's** most recent book, *The Birth of the Past*, was published by the Johns Hopkins University Press in October 2011. The work sums up Schiffman's many years of research in the field of historiography (the history of historical writing and thinking), extending from antiquity to the eighteenth century, and covering such figures as Homer, Herodotus, Thucydides, Polybius, Livy, Tacitus, St. Augustine, Gregory of Tours, the Venerable Bede, Petrarch, Erasmus, Bodin, Montaigne, Descartes, Malebranche, and Montesquieu.



The president of the American Historical Association, Anthony Grafton of Princeton University wrote a foreword to the book. In Grafton's appraisal, *The Birth of the Past* offers a bold, new interpretation of the origins of historical thought that promises to shake up the field of historiography.

In the wake of the book's publication, the editor of *New Literary History* asked Schiffman to write an article for that journal. Another prestigious academic journal, *Historically Speaking*, is set to publish an interview with Schiffman, which will appear alongside his own elaboration upon the principal arguments in *The Birth of the Past*. In March, he will present a paper at the annual meeting of the Renaissance Society of America to be held in Washington, D.C. "Bookends: Henry Y. K. Tom and the Shaping of Renaissance Studies" is a eulogy for the esteemed Renaissance historian and executive editor at the Johns Hopkins University Press.



While on sabbatical leave-of-absence revising her book manuscript, Professor **Christina Bueno** has also been busy giving conference papers:

In January, she presented "Guarding the Pre-Hispanic Past: Native Peoples as the First Official Wardens of Mexico's Ruins" at the 126th annual meeting of the American Historical Association in Chicago. She also chaired the session, which was titled *Reinventing Indians: New Perspectives on the 'Indian Problem' in Modern Mexico*.

In March she will be attending the Rocky Mountain Council on Latin American Studies (RMCLAS) in Park City, Utah to present a paper: "Imagining Antiquity: Positivism and Archaeology in Porfirian Mexico."

At the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) conference to be held this June in San Francisco, Bueno will present "Porfirian Constructions of Indian Antiquity in Mexico's National Museum."



Last fall, Professor **Mateo Farzaneh** delivered a paper at MESA, the most prestigious and widely attended multi-disciplinary conference in the field of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies. The title of his talk, "Financial Interest, Piety, and Marjuiyyat: the Fight Between Nuri and Khurasani" reflects key themes that shape his upcoming monograph on the Iranian Constitutional Revolution (1906-1911).



In March, Farzaneh travels to a research conference at the Center for Middle East Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, where he will deliver a paper on "Prospects of Constitutionalism in Iran and the Role of Shi'ite Clerics."

Professor **Joan Marie Johnson** will be participating in the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians in Milwaukee, where she will be a paper entitled: "I Didn't Give a Hoot for a Male Contraceptive: A Wealthy Feminist's Support for Reproductive Rights."

Johnson will also attend the Ninth Southern Conference on Women's History, Southern Association for Women Historians (SAWH) to chair and comment at a session entitled: A Turn to the Right: Conservative Women in the Modern South. She is a member of the executive council of the SAWH and a member of the Jacquelyn Dowd Hall Prize Committee.



In addition to the conferences, Professor Johnson recently won a Travel-to-Collection grant from the Sophie Newcomb Archives at Tulane University and will journey to New Orleans later this spring for research on her book about women philanthropists who funded feminist causes.

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Faculty Updates continued...



Professor **Francesca Morgan** will be presenting at the OAH/National Council for Public History meeting in Milwaukee in April 2012. Entitled "Documents and Distinction: The Gilded Age's Genealogy Boom," this paper is part of her book project, "Nation of Descendants: Genealogy in Modern America," which discusses how Americans researched their ancestors as a way to handle bereavement, class and racial identities, and a host of other issues.



In late May, 2010, Professor **Susan Rosa** was diagnosed with stage four pancreatic cancer. Since then, thanks to the care of a wonderful doctor and her own lively constitution, she's been doing very well and continues to teach for us part time. Recently, she has created several stellar new syllabi, including "Europe in the Age of the Baroque" for this spring and "Europe in the Age of Enlightenment," which she will teach next fall.

In March, Professor **Andrew Eisenberg** will be attending the Association of Asian Studies Conference in Toronto.

Meanwhile, Professor **Patrick Miller** travels to Paris to attend the exhibition: "L'Invention du Sauvage," an installation at the Musée Quai Branly, as well as to survey the Museum of Immigration History for a research project concerning history and public memory: *Displaying Race*.

In April **Charles Steinwedel** will be participating in the Midwest Russian History Workshop held at the University of Chicago. The MWRH workshop meets once or twice per year to discuss pre-circulated papers by scholars in the field.

The History Department mourns the loss of **Dr. Michael T. Kelly**, former Dean of Students at NEIU. Students, staff, professors and friends of the university will miss him deeply.

Contact Us: if you have news— or questions about our programs— we'd like to hear from you.
Check out www.neiu.edu/~history or write P-Miller1@neiu.edu.

NEIU Foundation/ History: Making a Gift

The History Fund at NEIU sponsors scholarships for undergraduates and professional development workshops/information sessions for History students who are considering graduate school. It also supports community service efforts spearheaded by faculty members, such as the [Newberry Seminar on Women and Gender](#).

For information about targeting contributions to the History Fund of the NEIU Foundation, please contact Liesl Downey, Development Office 773/442-424 l-downey@neiu.edu or Patrick Miller, 773/442-5606, p-miller1@neiu.edu.